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ABSTRACT

This curriculum unit supplement for middle school and secondary teachers helps students in grades 5-12 explore Egypt and Israel, in both ancient and modern contexts. The unit supplement begins with student objectives, such as practicing map and research skills and reviewing summary information concerning historic and current interests. It provides information about Egyptian and Israeli cities, landmarks, transportation, and commerce, and offers historical background on both regions. (BT)

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ED 451 112

A Tour of Modern and Historic Egypt and Israel

A compiling of data to assist 5th-12th grade students in exploring these both ancient and modern countries.

Having toured Egypt and Israel in the summer of the year 2000 under the capable authority of the Fulbright Offices and Ministries of Education of both of these countries, I would like to thank the many people involved who offered us so much of their time and attention, making these tours the marvellous experience that they were.

Greg Holdren, Friend, NE

Egypt

Learning objectives

Students will:

Locate on a map Egyptian cities, natural landmarks, and sites of interest, historic and modern

Understand methods of transportation available to access these areas

Understand means of communication necessary to allow interchange of ideas and commerce in a foreign country.

Review summary information concerning the historic and current interest in these areas.

Map of Egypt including areas of Interest

Locate the following: (see map of Egypt, map of Cairo)

Cities; Cairo, Alexandria, Luxor , Edfu, Aswan, El Arish,

Historic Monuments; Citadel of Salah El Din/Cairo, Giza area Pyramids and Sphinx/Giza, Roman Theatre and Pharos Lighthouse site/Alexandria, Luxor and Karnak Temples/Luxor, Valley of Kings and Queens/Luxor area, Temple of Horus/Edfu, Granite Quarries and Philae Temple/Aswan, Abu Simbel Temples/south of Aswan,

Natural Areas; Nile River, River Delta, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Lake Nassar, Sinai Peninsula,

Modern Structures; Suez Canal, Aswan Dam, Cairo Tower, Alexandria Library,

Museums; Egyptian Antiquities Museum/Cairo, Coptic Museum/Cairo, Military Museum/Citadel-Cairo, Greco Roman Museum/Alexandria, Nubian Museum/Aswan

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Transportation

American to Cairo (including stopover in Europe) by **airplane** , check internet for best available fares travelosity.com

Cairo Airport to Downtown Cairo by **taxi**

Cairo Area Daytrips **bus** Egyptian Ministry of Tourism

Nile Cruise, Access to Luxor, Edfu, Aswan **river boat, felucca boat**

Seek airfare from Aswan to Abu Simbel

Edfu boat landing to Horus temple by **horse carriage**

Tourist Information http://touregypt.net/cairo1.htm

http://www.touregypt.net/ check these sites for tourist information concerning Cairo and Egypt.

Commerce

Egyptian Currency- Egyptian Pound (check newspaper for current exchange rate)

Answer several exchange questions such as; If a Papyrus painting costs 140 Egyptian pounds, how much have you paid in American dollars? If you have 500 American dollars to exchange, how many Egyptian pounds would you receive? If it costs 30 E to take a taxi to the Giza Pyramids, 20 E to get into the Pyramid site, 10 E to go inside a pyramid, 10 E to take photographs inside, 15 E for a sphinx souvenir, and 10E for a camel ride, how much has this trip cost in American dollars?

Bargaining

Communication

Language

Written – hieroglyphic, Greek, Coptic (Christianity introduced by St Mark. –65 Ad), Arabic spoken at present, Egyptian dialect

Areas of Interest and Information Summaries

Cairo Memphis is established by King Menes, circa 3100BC, west bank of Nile, as his capital after uniting Upper and Lower Egypt

Downtown Shopping sites, entertainment, Coptic Cairo, Islam Cairo

Mosques Citadel of Salad Ell Din- built in 12 century and Mohamed Ali Mosque 19th century-alabaster in Turkish style

Antiquities museum founded by French Egyptologist Auguste Mariette in 1875 King Tut (King Tut's gold coffin –2,500 lbs. of gold) is estimated to be worth $13,000,000 today) King Tut became pharoah at nine years old, died at nineteen. Only pharoahs tomb to be found untouched by robbery. relics of Egyptian pharonic history

Giza Plateau 9miles west of Cairo, west side of Nile (where the sun sets)

Khufu (Cheops)Pyramid built around 2589-2566 BC, 482 feet high – largest most massive stone structure in the world, 2,300,000 blocks- average weight 2.5 tons each (some as much as 15 tons), base area 13 acres, larger than 10 football fields,100,000 men took 20 years to build it says Herodotus, monument to power of Egyptian state Only the king was buried inside, his wives buried in nearby mastabas. Granite doors, fake burial chambers, extra passages placed in pyramid to throw off robbers. Interior shaft thought to be directed toward Orion's belt to help king's spirit find it's way. Milky Way- the Nile of the heavens. Spirits inhabit stars upon death of mortals, 3 pyramids lined up with stars of Orion's belt. Sarcophagus of granite much larger than passageway, must have been built into pyramid.Outside is the mortuary temple area. Three small pyramids east of Great Pyramid thought to be for his sister (also wife) Merites, and two other queens. 5 boat pits were found around base of the pyramid, one reassembled boat is now on display in on site (See National Geographic) museum. Thought to be used for after-life travel, or to accompany sun god through the sky.

Chephren (Khephren, Khafre) Pyramid 2650 BC, son and successor of Khufu , pyramid smaller but built on higher ground 409.2 feet. Capped with smooth white limestone, all that remains of the original pyramid covering.

Menkaure Pyramid (2600 BC 204 feet showing signs of decline in workmanship, unfinished in Granite encasement, Menkaure's sarcophagus was lost at sea being shipped to England. Menkaure is Khefren's son, Khefren (Chephren) is Cheop's (Khufu) son Burial space for king and wife.

Sphinx (originally Greek name meaning "strangler" given to creature with the head of a woman, body of a lion and the wings of a bird). Lion with man's (King Chephren's) head 66ft high, 240 ft. long, face 13 ft. wide, eyes 6 ft. high. Single naturally located sandstone. Built by Chephren to guard his pyramid. Faces rising sun. Buried most of it's life in sand. King Thutmose IV placed a stela between the paws of the Sphinx describing when as a hunting prince he fell asleep in the shade of the Sphinx. In a dream the Sphinx told him to clear away the sand, as the Sphinz was choking, and Thutmose would become king. The operation was carried out and Thutmose later became king. The sacred cobra, nose, and beard are missing (beard is in the British Museum). The Sphinx has lasted as long as it has because of being buried in the sand. It is crumbling, the surface breaking down from weather and pollution despite efforts to restore it.

Luxor the worlds greatest open air museum

Luxor Temple

Karnak Temple

Valley of Kings/Queens burial sites of many Pharoahs and wives.

Tomb of Nefetari Wife of Ramesis II best preserved tomb, recently cleaned and reopened to a limited public. (See brochure-Nefetari)

Edfu Halfway between Luxor and Aswan Temple of Horus - largest and best preserved pharaonic temple begun by Ptolemy III in 237 BC

Kom Ombo 30 miles north of Aswan, Ptolemic era, symmetrical constructions Temple for Sobek (crocodile god) and Haroeris (falcon god). Includes alligator pit, relief carvings of doctor's tools.

Aswan 550 miles south of Cairo Near the Nile's 1st Cataract

Granite Quarries red granite used in historic sites along Nile,unfinished oblisque – cracked during extraction and left in situ.

Abu Simbel Temple Ramses II two temples 66ft high statues of Ramses saved from rising waters of Lake Nassar in 1960s by moving temples and hills to higher ground (212 ft. up and 690 ft. back) UNESCO project. Buried in sand from ancient times, rediscovered and uncovered in the early 1800s by European explorers (discovered by Swiss Johann Ludwig Burckhardt –1813 and dug out by Italian Giovanni Battista Belzoni-1817). It has become a favorite tourist site ever since for reasons of it's monumental sculpture and it amazing removal to the top of the hill. The temple was originally built by Ramses II in honor of himself, offering evidence in carving and painting of his military accomplishments including hieroglyphic narration of the epic poem by court poet Pentaur recounting the king's campaigns including those against the Hittites. Deep in the mountain at the end of the main hallway are four carved seated figures, Ramses himself with the gods Amon-Ra, Ptah, and Harmakhis. Twice a year at the solstices, light from the sun illuminates the passage to shine on most of these figures as it only can on only those days. (It doesn't shine on Ptah who is the god of darkness). After the monument was moved up the hill, even with modern technology involved, the angle was completed slightly off so that now the sun shines through to the end on the day after the king's birthday.

Nearby is the Temple of Hathor,dedicated to Ramses'favorite wife Nefertari, which for the first time in Egyptian history portrays the queen side by side and just as tall as the king himself.

Lake Nassar/Aswan Dam (see National Geographic Jan. 1995)

Alexandria The pearl of the Mediterranean, 2nd largest city in Egypt. Originally founded and named for Alexander the Great, became a center for the strongest aspects of Greek culture

Former site of Pharos, legendary lighthouse -one of 7 Wonders of the World (125m high, 300 rooms at bottom for workers, the lantern and top two stories fell around 700AD and the rest was destroyed by an earthquake around 1100AD) beacon of culture, Alexandria is the site of Cleopatra and Marc Anthony's relationship, Now known for commerce, cosmopolitanism and Bohemian culture.

Recent discoveries in the harbor of what is hoped to be remains of ancient lighthouse, also the Royal Quarters, statues and columns possible site for future underwater exhibit. -Rom

Greco, Roman theatre, museum, catacombs

Library In ancient Alexandria an internationally renowned library was built in the 4th century becoming the world's first university in what was know as the intellectual capitol of the world. Scholars included Euclid and Archimedes. This burnt down 1600 years ago. At present a new library, financed by many donations from many countries, is being built to revive this spirit of world cooperation in intellectual pursuit.

Fort Qaitbey – The Citadel of Qaitbey built by Sultan Qaitbey in 1480s on the site of the ancient lighthouse

Sinai

Suez Canal 120 miles from Mediterranean to Gulf of Suez, Longest canal without locks in the world.14,000 ships per year (compare distance from Rome to Calcutta with/without Suez Canal) Passage fees are major income for Egypt.

Mediterranean

Desert Home of monotheism, Mt Sinai, Bedouins

El Arish City on Mediterranean coast of Sinai Penninsula, University of Desert Agriculture, mediterranean vacation area, Bedouin Mkt. Area of encouraged settlements of Egyptian population

Historic Influences-

Pharaonic, 30 Dynasties

Archaic Period 3200-2700BC 1st-2nd Dynasties,

Old Kingdom ,3rd-6th Dynasties 2700-2200 BC

1st intermediate period 7th to 10th Dynasties 2200-2040 BC

Middle Kingdom 11th-12 Dynasties 2134-1786 BC

2nd intermediate 13-17th Dynasties 1786-1540 BC,

New Kingdom 18-20th Dynasties 1550-1295 BC

Late Period 21st-30th Dynasties 1069-332 BC Persians take control in 535 BC, Egyptian Pharoahs take back, Persians reconquer 341-332

Persians 525 BC Cambyses son ;of Cyrus the Great dethroned the last pharaoh of the 26th Dynasty and occupied memphis. Produced new city of Babylon (in Cario

Alexander the Great/ Greeks liberates Egypt in 332,Alexander dies 323 BC Ptolemaus one of his generals who inherits Egypt Alexandria becomes intellectual center (first version of Bible put together in Alexandria by 70 Christian scholars)
Ptolemic rule- Egypt center of Helenistic civilization Ptolemies represent themselves as successors of the Pharoahs

30 BC Suicide of Cleopatra and Marc Anthony

Roman, 2nd Cen. BC Egypt falling under rule of growing Roman expansion Rome conquered Egypt in 30 BC ending Ptolemic rule Augustus- Egypt to supply grain to Rome.

St Mark Begins Coptic Christian church in Egypt 45AD 204-330 AD Christians persecuted 379-395 AD Christianity official religion in Roman Empire

Arab, Arab Islamic State puts an end to Persian Empire, frees Syria and Palestine from the Byzantines and Egypt from the Romans in 640AD under Amr Ibn al-Aas Alexandria surrenders in 641 and fall into decline 641-851 Egypt becomes Muslim, Arabic replaces Coptic as national language

Tulunid Red 850-969 Rulers of Turkish Origin, Egypt flourishes then declines

Fatimids North Africans 969AD becomes a trading center as under the Ptolemies Shi'ite s Ruler must be descendent of Mohammed. built the Al-Azhar Mosque and University, which remains center of Islamic study.

Crusaders invade Egypt 1117 AD

Saladin established rule 1169 defeats Crusaders puts Cairo in it's modern form uniting various cities within one wall

Mameluke, Slave warriors of Turkish origin 1250-1517 violent but encourage architectural beauty

Ottoman, 1517-1805 Sultan Selim I invades Mameluk Egypt in 1517, country becomes province Ottoman empire chaos and anarchy through much of this period as Mamelukes struggle with Ottomans,

French, (1789) ?1798-1801 Napoleon Bonaparte defeated the Mameluks and occupied Cairo July 4th, 1798 opens Egypt to western influences, interest in Ancient Egypt regenerated

British Push out French

Further History

Muhammad Ali – 1805 founder of Modern Egypt, renaissance in all aspects of life, invites Mameluks to dinner at Citadel and slaughters them to become uncontested ruler. Begins dynasty of his descendents ending with exile of King Farouk 1952 (1882 British occupy Egypt, Descendants of Mohammed Ali continue to rule as mostly figurehead)

1914 Britain declares Egypt a British Protectorate,

1919 Revolution National movement led by Saad Zagloul and friends who were arrested and exiled to Malta. Led to March 9th 1919 revolution against British

1922 British recognize Egypt as a sovereign state but maintain an army presence 1936 Anglo Egyptian Treaty, end of English occupation

July 23 1952 Army takes control to end colonialism

1967 Israeli 6 day war Israel occupies Sinai

October 6 1973 Egyptian and Syria against Israeli Occupation drive Israeli occupation from Suez Canal

1981 President Anwar Sadat assasinated, President Hosni Mubarak in charge and still remains president.

1982 Israel evacuates Sinai

Vocabulary

Canopic Jars Vessels for the organs of the dead during mummification (4 jars-liver, lungs, stomach, intestines)

Mastaba- flat topped tombs

Stela – stone monument which engraved story of benefactor's accomplishments

Israel

Israel is a country which connects three continents, Africa Asia and Europe, and being this connection rod has been over run continuously throughout history by a series of invaders. It is also the home area of the foundations of three of the worlds main religions and holds sites sacred to the Jewish, Christian, and Moslem faiths. It remains a country in dispute of ownership rights to it's various territories and shrines.

Students will

Picture Israel's location as a crossroads in the spreading of major western civilizations

Review the History of thousands of years of invasion and occupation by various groups

Understand the historic context of modern disputes

Observe and consider religious and historic monuments

Observe modern national parks as evidence of Israel's interesting history

Location
Note map of world with Israel located.

Note map of Israel with chief cities, monuments and natural areas of interest indicated.

Note map with invasion routes of various cultures shown.

Locate:

Cities; Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Safed, Tiberius, Eilat

Natural Areas; Dead Sea, Jordan River, Sea of Galili, Golan Heights, Mediterranean, Negev Desert, Advat Desert

Neighbors; Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, note position of Iraq

National Parks (See Nat Parks brochure)

Holy Sites Jerusalem – western wall, Dome of the Rock, Al Aqsa, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Garden Tomb, Bethlehem – Church of the Nativity, Nazareth – Church of the Annunciation, Safed – historical synagogues, Jordan River – baptism site.

Invasion History Some of the more renowned invasions of this region of the world include the following:

The original **Hebrews** arrived in this region then occupied by Caananites in The unified kingdom of Israel under the Kings Saul, David, Solomon, andRehoboam lasted scarcely a century. The reign of Solomon placed the Hebrews as a military and economic force in the area. Under Rehoboam the ten tribes of the north broke away into their own kingdom.

Assyrians 720 BC, King Sargon II defeated the Hebrews and deported many from the northern kingdom.

Babylonians 597 BC, invaded Judea to the south and took many more of the people to Babylon as slaves. Under King Nebuchadnezzar II the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and King Solomon's temple.

539 BC Cyrus the Great of Persia conquered Babylon and allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem where they rebuilt the temple.

Greeks 339 BC Alexander the Great conquered Syria and Palestine. When Alexander died in 323 BC his kingdom was divided among his generals with Ptolemy of Egypt being given Palestine. In 198 BC it was taken by the Selucids of Syria. Hellenistic influences develop society with strong Greek culture. Religious freedom allowed until Antiochus IV Epiphanes started forcing complete Hellenization upon the region (including the worship of himself as a god) which resulted in a revolt by the Jews. Antiochus occupied Jerusalem and massacred the population. The Jews retook the city and region under the Maccabees.

Romans 67 BC Pompey of Rome assisted in a civil war (between Pharisees- favoring more Helenization and Sadducees- against Hellenization) turning Palestine into a vassal state. Herod the Great rules as king under the Romans. Rome took over as

complete rulers after the death of Herod in 4 BC. Palestine was in a constant state of rejecting Roman rule and was conquered and Jerusalem and the temple destroyed in AD 70 by Titus. AD 135 Emperor Hadrian renames Judaea calling it Syria Palestina. Destroyed Solomons temple and built a temple to Jupiter in it's place.
Byzantine Emperor Heraclius overthrown by **Moslem Arabs** in AD 638 Caliph Abd-el-Malik built a mosque where Solomon's temple had stood.
Crusaders invade Arab dominion of Palestine in 1099 and held the territory until 1291 when they were replaced by the **Egyptian Mameluks** who were replaced by the **Ottoman Turks** in 1516
1880-1910 30,000 Jews, encouraged by the writings of Theodor Herzl suggesting the creation of a Jewish state, arrive in Palestine. They bought land from the Turks and begin socialized farming. Jews side with British/French against Turks in WWI. **British** Minister Arthur Balfour suggests a national home for Jews in Palestine at the end of the war. Many more Jews arrive against the wishes of the Arabs. In 1922 the area is entrusted to Britain by the League of Nations. Many more Jews arrive between 1st and 2nd World Wars. After WWII,many Jewish survivors wish to emigrate to Palestine but Britain sets limits. Arab residents oppose increasing Jewish presence. The United Nations proposes that the land is split between Jewish and Arabic groups which is approved by the Jews and rejected by the Arabs. As British presence ceases in 1948 a **Jewish State** led by David Ben Gurion declares independence and the Arab League declares war. Israel is dominant in continuous battles. Jerusalem is divided between Jordan and Israel. June 1967, six day war in which Israel defeats Egypt, Jordanian, and Syrian forces, occupying the Sinai Penninsula, The Golan Heights and all of Jerusalem. Oct 5th, 1973 Egypt and Syria attack Israel and are stopped after 2 weeks of bitter fighting. 1977 Egypt and Israel sign peace agreement, Sinai goes back to Egypt. Further disputes between Arab and Jewish inhabitants of Israel continue.

Variety of National parks
Israel is a nation of archeologists. Most of the population is fascinated by discoveries of the relics of millenniums of history. National parks feature many sites of historical excavations as well as natural areas of beauty. A sampling of these are;

Bet Guvrin-Maresha; City of caves, soft limestone chalk capped by harder limestone. Chalk quarried for building stones, excavations made into homes, churches, cemetaries, cysterns, pigeon cotes, and olive oil plants. Extensive cave system , many open to public

Masada Site of a hilltop fortress, made into a splendid fortified palace by Herod. It became the refuge of zealots after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. Besieged by Roman soldiers in AD 72 the 950-some men, women, and children holed up there chose mass suicide rather than death at the hands of the Romans.

Ein Advat A natural desert canyon with lovely walk along the river at it's base and eventual hill climb up the cliff. Home to ibex, former home of Christian monks. Near Ben Gurion's home and grave.

Bet She'an Excavation of Roman town destroyed in earthquake and very complete in it's artifacts.

Bet She'arim Catacomb site, particularly in 3rd and 4th centuries. Famous Rabbi and educator Yehuda Hanassi buried here.

Religious Sites and Shrines

Jewish

Western Wall the only surviving piece of wall from the original temple destroyed by Rome. Now an area of prayer for the Jewish faithful.

Safed home of ancient synagogues and seat of Rabbinical teaching and study

Christian

Church of the Nativity Bethlehem The site of the birth of Jesus Christ. Several churches in this complex, Palestinian control zone.

Church of the Annunciation Nazareth, Dedicated to Mary the mother of Jesus, home village of the holy family, area includes well where the angel of God reportedly announced God's intention to have Mary be the mother of His son. Art work depicting Mary and Jesus on display from countries all over the world.

Holy Sepulchre Jerusalem The traditional site of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus.

The Garden Tomb, alternate site of burial and crucifixion suggested by protestant churches not to keen on the shrine atmosphere of the traditional site

Moslem

Haram el-Sharif, Dome of the Rock, al Aqsa Mosque Jerusalem Third holiest site in Islam after Mecca and Medina. Located on Mt. Moriah same area as previous Temple of Solomon destroyed by Romans. Site of Mohammed's rising to heaven.